

JAMES 13

Justified by Works

1. 2:19 – Abraham’s Belief in One God

- a. The belief = “there is one God” (An Israelite privilege) – Deut 4:35, 6:4-5
- b. The “one God” was part of the covenant fulfillment - Luke 4:33-35, Isa 55:5, 60:14
- c. The devils believe and tremble – Mark 1:24-25, Mat 8:29
- d. Why do the devil and his angels go to hell? Not faith, but works. - Mat 25:41
- e. One scribe was not far from the kingdom of heaven – Mark 12:28-34
- f. Doing the works of Abraham – John 8:37-39

2. 2:20-26 - Vain Dead Faith

- a. We saw the vain man in James 1:26 – There are wolves among the sheep
- b. James is trying to weed out the bad branches – Mat 7:15-23, 1 John 3:10
- c. Without works their faith was selfish, empty, hypocritical, vain
- d. Without works their faith in God was vain – John 8:51, 12:49-50, 1 John 3:23

3. 2:21-23 – Abraham Justified by Works

- a. Abraham was an example of faith, James teaches him as works – Gen 22:16-18
- b. Why did Abraham offer his son? Faith: faith obeys God. - Heb 11:17-19
- c. Abraham was worthy of the reward by what he did – Psa 7:8, 26:1, Mat 19:29
- d. God required more than faith, Israel without fruit was not worthy – Mat 21:43

4. 2:23-24 – The Scripture was Fulfilled

- a. James quotes Gen 15:6, so does Paul – Romans 4:2-3
- b. God has obligations to perform according to covenants and promises – Rom 4:4
- c. Abraham had an obligation to perform according to God’s instructions – Rom 4:21
- d. Paul’s reference is for those that God does not tell to work – Rom 4:9-10
- e. The “friends of God” enter the kingdom, they are Israel – John 15:13-15 (Isa 41:8ff)
- f. Friends of God are not friends of the world – James 4:4